

News Release

In Wake of \$180 Million Budget Deficit, DeMaio Launches Series of Public "Town Halls" on City Finances

Forums to Offer the Public a Candid Look at City's Finances

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SAN DIEGO – On the heels of the release of an updated Five-Year Financial Outlook that shows a worsening of city finances and a whopping \$180 million deficit in the coming year, City Councilmember Carl DeMaio today announced he will conduct a number of "Town Halls and "Focus Groups" on City Finances to engage the public in a search for solutions to the city's financial problems.

"If we are to hold city government accountable for implementing tough financial reforms, we have to engage the public in a candid and complete way so they understand how big the city's financial problems are," commented DeMaio in explaining the need for the Town Halls.

The briefings provided at DeMaio's "Town Halls" will provide the public with a more extensive look at the various financial liabilities facing the city, expanding on the official Financial Outlook released by the city today. Topics will include the anticipated budget deficit, the pension debt, retiree healthcare liabilities, infrastructure funding shortfalls, and unsustainable labor costs.

More importantly, the Town Halls will also give the public a chance to discuss their ideas and input on solutions to restore the city's financial health.

The first two **Town Halls** are slated to occur in the next month:

- October 14th at 6:00pm Scripps Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive, 92131
- November 5th at 7:00pm Casa de las Campanas, 18655 West Bernardo Drive, 92127

DeMaio is also offering small-scale **Focus Group Sessions** where he will engage business and civic leaders in an examination of city financial problems and options for reforms. These workshops commence on Wednesday, October 21 and run through late November. DeMaio will present the city's financial picture to a variety of stakeholders – and commits to brief any civic group that wants to engage in forthright dialog on city finances.

- October 21st at 2:00pm City Hall, 202 C Street, 92101 -- 12th floor
- October 23rd at 10:30am Babycakes Café, 3766 5th Avenue, 92103
- October 29th at 10:00am Naval Training Center, 2640 Historic Decatur, 92106
- Nov 4th at 3:00pm City Hall, 202 C Street, 92101 -- 12th floor
- Nov 19th at 10:00am Naval Training Center, 2640 Historic Decatur, 92106

"We're taking the show on the road – with the hope that an informed and engaged public will help push city leaders to solve the city's financial problems once and for all,' concluded DeMaio.

For more information visit www.CleanUpCityHall.com.